My Dearest Marina -

In no way am I disappointed in you! Considering the many traumas you have suffered in this country, and the people who have taken advantage of you -- and those who have tried to take advantage of you -- I am surprised that you trust anyone other than your own three children and your husband.

I am disappointed in myself and in Bud Fensterwald. I don't know how we managed to convey the wrong impressions to you. The last thing in the world either of us wanted to do was push you into something you didn't want to do. I'm sure I misled Bud into thinking that it was all settled and if he would represent you without any expense to you, you definitely wanted him to help you get the body exhumed and obtain the release of all papers regarding you and your life that our government is still classifying.

The other day I had occasion to speak to Bud about another matter he is handling for another friend. I apologized for jumping to conclusions and getting him down here without being certain that it was what you wanted. He said he was glad he had the opportunity to meet you. I think he was as impressed with you as the members of my family have been. I believe that if you ever needed him and called on him he would do anything in the world he could do to help you and would handle your problems any way that you wanted him to handle them.

I have known Bud for many years and have never known him to do any dishonorable or even questionable act during those years. Do you remember the young artist from Memphis, Robert Chapman? He also knows Bud very well and considers him a friend. Robert has been a guest in Bud's home in Virginia. I wish you would call Robert and ask him his opinion of Bud. I am confident Robert would assure you that Bud is one of the most trustworthy people in the world. (Robert's number in Memphis is 901 323-4738.)

Marina, I am not trying to "sell you" on my friend. I guess I am trying to convince you that I would never have recommended anyone who was not completely ethical as well as a very fine attorney. Bud trusted you -- which did not surprise me. It did surprise and shock me that you did not trust Bud. I've never known anyone who did not trust him. But then, I'm sure you have been through so much that you have a kind of antenna that most of us don't have.

Please don't give up your search for an attorney. Your objectives are too important to abandon. And, when you do find the right one, please feel free to call on me for documents, or any other help that I might be able to give you.

Buck and I would like to take you and Kenneth out to dinner one evening soon. I think Buck and Kenneth have a lot in common, since I understand that your husband enjoys hunting and fishing as much as mine does. Please call the first Friday or Saturday evening that you see you are going to have free.

Thank you so very much for your sincere note. It made me feel so much better. I was afraid I had hurt your feelings some way.

Love, Mary Ferrell